

AFTER LOWER FREIGHTS

Rivers and Harbors Congress favors Government Bond Issue for Enabling the Inland Waterways to Compete with Railways in Freight Traffic.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The sentiment in favor of a government bond issue for comprehensive improvement of the rivers, harbors and canals of the country to the end that the nation shall have the greatest system of waterways in the world, gained headway at the opening session of the annual meeting of the Rivers and Harbors congress here today. The scheme contemplates \$500,000,000 worth of federal bonds for internal water courses, distributed over a ten year period, or \$50,000,000 annually.

One of the principal speakers at the evening session of the congress was by Judge George Hillyer, a member of the railroad commission of Georgia, on the necessity of overland canals.

Calling attention to what he said were the great freight blockades in the United States a year ago, Mr. Hillyer said that in Europe the difficulty had been obviated by the proper division made into water freight and rail freights, with due regard for the improvement of the

rivers and the construction of canals. The transportation problem in Europe had been solved, he said, by shipping bulky and non-perishable freight by river and canal, while the costly freight went by rail. "We never hear of a freight blockade in France, Belgium or Germany. In any freight blockade in the United States," he asserted, "probably there were three carloads of the heavy, bulky kind to one of the less bulky but costly kind."

"Given the canals and rivers and water routes by which the bulky, cumbersome and heavy freights would be shipped, the situation in any freight blockade would be once relieved and the recurrence of the same evil permanently prevented. It was true that if the money was spent on the railroads they could be so increased in capacity as to meet the present needs," but that, he argued, "would involve an expense of \$5,000,000,000 for immediate needs, with no guarantee for the future, whereas one-fifth or possibly one-tenth of that sum, judiciously expended on the rivers and harbors of the country and in the construction of well located canals, would solve

the problem. Under this system the railroads would be left to handle the high grade and costly freights, which they can easily do. This would pay them better, and at the same time the public, having the advantage of both water and rail, would be properly and promptly served. He disclaimed that transportation rates in Europe were higher than in the United States. It was doubtless true," he said, "that the rates enjoyed by the railroads for carrying the high priced and costly freights were somewhat higher in Europe than here, but that in Europe the bulky and less valuable freights were hardly counted at all in railroad rate making or exercised any important influence in railroad bookkeeping. On the whole and in the aggregate the comparison was overwhelmingly favorable to the combined water and rail system in Europe as contrasted with the all-rail system so largely prevailing in the United States."

Mr. Hillyer cited many illustrations of the costly process of railroad transportation as furnishing a sufficient explanation of the need for inland waterways as a means of forcing cheaper freight rates.

THE RUEF JURY HAS NOT AGREED

TUNNEL DIGGERS KILLED

(By Associated Press.)
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 10.—Barney Burns and R. Williams, employed as muckers on the Los Angeles aqueduct, were killed by a cave-in at the south end of the Elizabeth lake tunnel this afternoon. The cause of the accident is unknown. The bodies were recovered.

INTEREST IN STOCKS REVIVING

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—There was extraordinary variety in the issues dealt in on the stock exchange today, but very little news accounts for the newly revived interest in them. Transactions were made in a large number of securities that have not appeared on the tape before in months past, and only a few times in the year's activities. Bonds were firm.

TONOPAH MAN SUICIDED WHILE ABOARD STEAMER

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Benedick Dore, of Tonopah, Nevada, committed suicide December 3, on board the steamer Finlander, which arrived from Antwerp today. He was a cabin passenger, and had been ill. He was bound for Tonopah and had his railway ticket and some money.

BAD CHECK MAN WAS SENTENCED

(By Associated Press.)
RENO, Dec. 9.—C. A. Rogers, who claims to be a nephew of H. H. Rogers, vice president of the Standard Oil company, was sentenced to serve a year in the state penitentiary today. He was indicted on two counts for passing fictitious checks, pleaded not guilty when arraigned, and later changed plea to guilty.

REAR ADMIRAL COGHLAN DIES SUDDENLY AT HOME

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Rear Admiral Joseph B. Coghlan, retired, died suddenly of heart disease at his home in New Rochelle, New York, yesterday.

Rear Admiral Coghlan graduated from Annapolis in 1863. He was appointed rear admiral April 1, 1902. Admiral Coghlan was in command of the cruiser Raleigh in the battle of Manila bay, May 1, 1898. He commanded the Atlantic station in 1902-3.

THEATRE COMBINE FORMED

(By Associated Press.)
CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—Seventy-five theaters between Chicago and San Francisco, including playhouses in Omaha, Denver and San Francisco, are to be merged into one company, according to the Daily News today, which credits the story to an authoritative source. Klaw and Erlanger are said to be the prime movers in the extension of the so-called trust, although others are declared to be interested. It was reported tonight the enterprise contemplates embracing more than the territory between Chicago and San Francisco. It is said Charis Frohman, Al Hayman and Samuel Nixon of Philadelphia are interested in the merger, which plans control of theater property valued at \$50,000,000.

A VETERAN U. S. EMPLOYE IS DEAD

(By Associated Press.)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.—Captain Augustus F. Rogers, assistant superintendent of the United States coast and geodetic survey, said to have been the oldest official in the employ of the government, died today at his home here after an illness of three hours. He was a son of Commodore John Rodgers, who defended Baltimore in the war of 1812, and who at the time of his death was head of the navy. Captain Rogers would have been 80 the first of January.

ANDY MUST TALK SOME.
(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Andrew Carnegie was subpoenaed to appear before the house ways and means committee to testify in the tariff revision hearings today.

(Associated Press.)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—The case of Abraham Ruef, charged with bribery of former supervisors of this city, went to jury at 3:36 p. m. today. At 5:45, after being out two hours and nine minutes, the jury requested and was given permission to go to dinner by Judge Lawlor, but ordered to resume deliberations at 8 o'clock. The jury returned from the St. Francis hotel at that time, and after deliberating an hour and a half sent for Judge Lawlor and requested the testimony of Furey, Wilson and Gallagher to be read. This commenced at 9:35 and was still in progress at midnight.

It was difficult for the jury to indicate to the court just what testimony of the three supervisors was wanted. Foreman MacNamara several times conferred with two members of the jury while the other jurors were in conference together at the other end of the jury box. They wanted all the evidence of Furey, Gallagher and Wilson read, tending to show who made the offer of the bribe.

Throughout the last day of the trial, which has consumed 105 days, and until after midnight, the courtroom was crowded with men and women. A large force of police were on duty in the courtroom and before the building, while many detectives in plain clothes mingled with the spectators. Popular interest in the outcome was indicated by the crowd outside during the day in a downpour of rain, waiting for opportunity to be admitted when any one left and made room inside.

Hiram Johnson closed for the prosecution at noon with a powerful, brilliant argument for conviction. He scathingly arraigned Ruef. The judge began to charge the jury at 2 o'clock. In the foul stifling atmosphere of the courtroom tonight scores of men and women, and among them jurists of state and national reputation, clergymen whose sermons were based upon the lessons and tragedies of the graft prosecutions; editors, politicians and detectives kept vigil and listened to the monotonous reading of testimony.

The reading of testimony was concluded and the jury at 12:25 retired to deliberate or ballot. Just before retiring one of the jurors asked the court to explain the difference between "offer to bribe" and "receiving a bribe."

Ruef for a time paced nervously up and down the aisles, then entered into animated conversation with two young women who have been acting as stenographers for the defense. Later during the reading of testimony he actively assisted Dozier.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.—At 1 o'clock Judge Lawlor ordered the jury locked up for the night at the St. Francis hotel, with instructions to be brought into court at 10 this morning.

BOAS' DEATH STILL BEING INVESTIGATED

(By Associated Press.)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—Even though the murder charge against J. Walter Wilson, detained in the city prison on suspicion of having sent the poison through the mail that caused the death of Harry Boas, the young electrician, fail, the dead man's brothers, Martin and John Boas, asserted today they have sufficient evidence to prefer a charge of embezzlement against him. They have finished examining the books of their dead brother and declare they have found a number of irregularities for which Wilson is alleged to be responsible.

T. B. RICKEY IS ARRESTED

(By Associated Press.)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—Four jurors were sworn today to try I. W. Chang, a Korean, charged with the murder of Durham Stevens last March, making a total of eleven so far secured.

SILVER TAKES JUMP.
NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Lead, weak, 4.22½ @ 4.27½; copper, easy, 14.25 @ 14.50; silver, 49.

STILL IN DANGER.
(By Associated Press.)
PINE BLUFF (Ark.), Dec. 9.—The entire eastern end of the city tonight is endangered by flood waters of the Arkansas river. Unless the river is checked a number of buildings, including the Cotton Belt shops, are likely to be destroyed.

Try our four year old port and sherry wines at \$2.00 per gallon. H. J. Hall & Co.

GETTING JURY IN STEVENS CASE

(By Associated Press.)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—Four jurors were sworn today to try I. W. Chang, a Korean, charged with the murder of Durham Stevens last March, making a total of eleven so far secured.

KANSAS CITY MESSIAH HAS MADE ESCAPE

(Associated Press.)
KANSAS CITY, Dec. 9.—Efforts of the police today to find John Sharp, hailed by his fanatical followers as the second Messiah, failed to reveal his movements after yesterday's flight with the police. The only clue so far secured is that he went into a negro barber shop after the tragedy late yesterday and had his hair trimmed and his long beard shaved off. Chief of Police Ahern has issued circulars giving Sharp's description, offering a reward for his capture. No other name shall be added to yesterday's list of dead. Policeman Michael Mullane, who was most seriously hurt, is declared by the physicians to have an even chance for recovery. Sergeant Clark and A. J. Selzer, a bystander who was shot, are steadily improving.

At the general hospital, Louis Pratt, the first disciple of Sharp, the father of the girl killed, is lying on a cot with his right leg amputated at the knee and a bullet in his brain. Mrs. Pratt and her four surviving children are detained at police headquarters.

COST MORE DEAD THAN WHEN ALIVE

(By Associated Press.)
PEKING, Dec. 10.—In accordance with the ancient custom, all personal effects, clothing, costly furs, etc., belonging to the late emperor have been incinerated. The work has been going on for the past week. The post mortem expenditures in connection with their late majesties amount to about \$4,200,000. The resting place of the late emperor is not yet determined upon, but a commission has left Peking for the Eastern Tombs to fix upon a site. The dowager empress will be buried in the spring, when her mausoleum shall have been completed. Her obsequies cost as much as those of the emperor. The prince regent has been given full imperial power. The people regard him as the emperor de facto. His enthronement takes place at the end of the period of mourning.